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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/316,560	05/24/1999	MARC DURANTON	PRF-99.540V	7958

7590 07/17/2002

c/o U.S. PHILIPS CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
580 WHITE PLAINS ROAD
TARRYTOWN, NY 10591

EXAMINER

BRAGDON, REGINALD GLENWOOD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2186

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/316,560

Applicant(s)

DURANTON, MARC

Examiner

Reginald G. Bragdon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 June 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

It is not clear where Applicant has support in the specification for the new limitation of “a control unit for, on the basis of the control commands, ensuring that input data and output data are not simultaneously required for writing and reading from one of the plurality of independent memory circuits” as set forth in claim 1 (with similar language in claims 4 and 5).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Torii et al. (4,734,850).

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As per claims 1, 4, and 5, Torii et al. teaches a data processing system including a plurality of execution units (E-units 1 and 6 in figure 1), which represent a “first processor” and a “second processor”. A “memory system” is shown in figure 2, including memory banks 47, 48 (“plurality of memory circuits”), which are independent of each other. See column 2, line 67, to column 3, line 1. These FIFO memories of figure 2 are shared between the execution units as described in column 2, lines 7-15. A mode indicating circuit 41 (“master controller”) provides a signal for repetitively indicating at a constant interval a write mode to banks 47, 48. See column 3, lines 26-43. A read/write control circuit 100 (“control unit”) generates a write address from a write control circuit 42 for write data (“selecting a first memory...by the first processor”; see column 4, line 60, to column 5, line 22) and a read address from read control circuit 43 for read data (“selecting a second memory...by the second processor”; see column 6, line 64 to column 7, line 11). Furthermore, Torii et al. teaches writing to one bank 47 simultaneously with reading from the other bank 48, and visa versa. See column 7, lines 46-52.

Torii et al. ensures that a particular bank is not simultaneously required for reading and writing through the use of a write enable input. If the write enable input is “1”, then data is written into a particular bank. See column 6, lines 21-28. Since the bank is enabled for writing through the write enable input, it would be impossible to simultaneously read from the same bank (which would require a write enable input of “0”), thereby ensuring that input data and output data are not simultaneously required for writing and reading from one of the memory banks. The input to each bank’s write enable input is generated by the read/write control circuit 100. See figure 2.

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As per claim 2, Torii et al. teaches a write counter and a read counter for generating addresses. See claim 18, for example, and figures 4 and 5.

As per claim 3, Torii et al. teaches a write request input, WREQ, ("NXT_W") and a read request input, RREQ, ("NXT_R"). See column 4, lines 2-13, and column 6, lines 39-41.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 6-17-2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant generally argues that Torii et al. does not teach "a control unit for, on the basis of the control commands, ensuring that input data and output data are not simultaneously required for writing and reading from one of the plurality of independent memory circuits." However, as set forth above in the rejection of claims 1 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), Torii et al. does indeed teach this limitation.

Conclusion

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7. Any response to this final action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703) 746-7238 (After Final Communications)
or
(703) 746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703) 746-7240 (For Status inquiries, draft communications)
and/or
(703) 746-5693 (Use this FAX#, only after approval by the Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communications. An Examiner may request that a formal page/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasion).

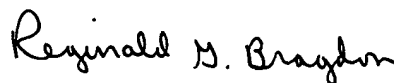
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121
Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Fourth Floor (receptionist).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reginald G. Bragdon whose telephone number is (703) 305-3823. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM and every other Friday from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

The examiner's supervisor, Matthew Kim, can be reached at (703) 305-3821.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

RGB
July 16, 2002


Reginald G. Bragdon
Primary Patent Examiner
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